



## SOUTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Interested Individuals  
**FROM:** Arlene Poncelet, Executive Director  
**DATE:** May 17, 2007  
**SUBJECT:** Applications for Council Membership

The SD Council on Developmental Disabilities will have an opening beginning July 1, 2007 for a parent or guardian of a child with developmental disabilities. The Council Office is gathering names of people who are interested in membership on the Council. Those names will be forwarded to the Governor's Office for final selection.

The Council is involved in advocacy, capacity building and systems change efforts on behalf of people with developmental disabilities across the state. Through the DD Act the Council has federal funds available for training, outreach, demonstration projects, coalition building, etc. The Council's work involves requesting grant applications in areas it has defined, reviewing the applications, and making funding decisions.

Attached you will find the Application for Membership, Council member job description, federal definition of developmental disability, and the Mission Statement and Statement of Principles. These items may be copied as needed.

Please disseminate this information to people you feel might be interested. My deadline for receiving names is **June 1, 2007**. Thank you for your assistance. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

## **Information on COUNCIL Membership - Three-Year Terms**

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES:**

1. Attend and actively participate in meetings and activities.
2. Serve as an advocate for people with developmental disabilities of all ages.
3. Assist in monitoring the developmental disabilities service network, legislation, state plans and policies.
4. Participate in development and updating of the Five-Year State Plan for the Council's activities.
5. Take part in other Council sponsored activities and encourage the participation of others.
6. Ask questions and inform and educate yourself about disability issues in general and Council initiatives in particular.
7. Assist and support new Council members.

### **AUTHORITY:**

A Council member has only that authority granted him or her by federal or state statute or by the entire Council body through specific resolution.

### **VALUES DESIRED:**

1. Commitment to a person- and family-centered and directed system of services that enables people with developmental disabilities to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive and be integrated and included in all facets of community life.
2. Commitment to creating an environment in which people with developmental disabilities direct their own lives and participate in the community.
3. Possession of honesty, integrity and respect for the values of others.
4. Possession of a strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflict of interest and self-dealing.

### **APPROXIMATE TIME INVOLVED PER YEAR (excluding travel):**

48 hours – Council Meetings (4 meetings per year)

20 hours – Committee meetings, conference calls, other Council activities (varies by interest)

16 hours – Preparation for Council meetings

84 hours – TOTAL

### **REIMBURSEMENT**

Council members are reimbursed for costs incurred doing Council business (meals, mileage, personal care, childcare, parking fees, etc.). Lodging and airfare are paid directly by the Council whenever possible. Reimbursement rates are set by the state. Travel arrangements are made by staff after consultation with Council members. Non-agency members are eligible for a \$60 per day stipend for Council meetings.

# SD COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Deadline – June 1, 2007

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark the category or categories that you could represent:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Person with a Developmental Disability
- \_\_\_\_\_ Person with a Developmental Disability who currently or previously lived at the SD Developmental Center.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parent or guardian of an adult with mentally impairing developmental disabilities who cannot advocate for themselves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parent or guardian of a child with a developmental disability.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Representative of community based service providers.

1. If you are a person with a developmental disability, please describe your disability.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. If you are a parent or guardian of a child/adult with developmental disabilities please list age(s) and disabilities:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. If you are representing an agency/organization, please state the name and location of the organization you are representing:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Why do you want to be on the Council?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What are your specific concerns/interests in disability issues?

6. What strengths do you bring to the Council?

7. Can you commit to four quarterly meetings (maximum of 2 days each) per year?

\_\_\_ Yes – Advance dates and locations are necessary to schedule other dates around them.

\_\_\_ Maybe – Advance dates and locations are necessary, however, other obligations may take precedence.

\_\_\_ No – If no, please comment:

8. Are there any accommodations you will need to participate as a Council member? If yes, describe accommodations needed (accessible transportation/room, personal care provider, interpreter, facilitator, special dietary requirements, etc.).

9. Please list any involvement you have had with community organizations, disability organizations or types of experience you have had in advocating for people with developmental disabilities (Membership in other organizations is NOT a requirement.)

10. Please tell us a little about yourself and your family.

11. How did you learn about the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities?

Signature & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, please contact Arlene Poncelet at the Council Office (605-773-6369 or 1-800-265-9684).

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To assist people with developmental disabilities to control their own destiny and to achieve the quality of life they desire.

## **STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**

- All people with developmental disabilities have the right to self-determination and the opportunity to make informed choices.
- People with developmental disabilities and their families have strengths and personal goals that are recognized, supported and encouraged.
- People with developmental disabilities have full and timely access to opportunities and supports to be included in community life, have relationships, live in homes of their choice, and make contributions to their families, community, state and nation.
- People with developmental disabilities live free of abuse, exploitation and violations of their legal rights.
- People with developmental disabilities receive services and supports in an efficient, coordinated and timely manner that respects dignity and diversity.
- The lives of people with developmental disabilities are enhanced when families and communities are provided information, services, and other assistance.

## **IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT**

In order to create an environment in which people with developmental disabilities direct their own lives and participate in the community as stated in the Statement of Principles, the Council will:

- plan, advocate and support systems change;
- provide information and education;
- monitor legislation, state plans and policies,
- promote and support best practices; and
- promote partnerships among people with developmental disabilities, their families, coalitions, state agencies and service providers.

**Federal Areas of Emphasis** include quality assurance, education and early intervention, childcare, health, employment, housing, transportation, recreation, and formal and informal community supports.

Revised January 26, 2006

## **Federal Definition of Developmental Disability – Public Law 106-402**

In General, the term “developmental disability” means a severe, chronic disability of an individual that -

- (A) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;
- (B) is manifested before the individual attains age 22;
- (C) is likely to continue indefinitely;
- (D) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:
  - (i) self-care;
  - (ii) receptive and expressive language;
  - (iii) learning;
  - (iv) mobility;
  - (v) self-direction;
  - (vi) capacity for independent living; and
  - (vii) economic self-sufficiency; and
- (E) reflects the individual’s need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that is of lifelong or extended duration and is individually planned and coordinated,

**Infants & Young Children** - An individual from birth to age 9, inclusive, who has substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition, may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting 3 or more of the criteria described earlier if the individual, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life.